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July 7, 2006

Alicia Matthews
Director, Cable Division
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110



Dear Director Matthews:

I am writing on behalf of *Chamber of Commerce* in support of Verizon's petition to the Department of Telecommunications to establish a shorter and more predictable timeline for the cable franchise process in Massachusetts.

We believe in competition. Many of our members are small business owners that compete vigorously in their respective markets. All want more choices in technology to support their own operations. The investment that Verizon is making in Massachusetts will have a significant impact on our members' ability to leverage the power of technology to compete globally. Verizon's new video service, as well as its voice and internet services, will be offered over the most advanced fiber-optic network in the country. For the first time small businesses will be able to have an opportunity to purchase new, faster technology at a reasonable price – technology that until now has been available to only the larger businesses.

As a result of this investment and the delivery of fiber optic technology right to the door, we believe small businesses in particular will have more choice, more growth, opportunity, and more commercial opportunity.

Please record us in favor of the streamlined franchising process in CTV-06-1.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Denver
Executive Director

cc: Janice Tartaka, Director of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation
Chairwoman Judith Judson
Commissioner James Connelly
Commissioner W. Robert Keating
Commissioner Brian Paul Golden